



## SULFURYL FLUORIDE

**Agent Overview:**

Sulfuryl fluoride is a colorless, odorless, toxic inorganic gas. It is used as a fumigant to control wood-infesting termites, beetles and other insects, and rodents, but is not registered for use on food or feed crops. Sulfuryl fluoride acts as a central nervous system depressant. Poisoning symptoms include depression, slowed gait, slurred speech, nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, drunkenness, itching, numbness, twitching, and seizures. Inhaling high concentrations may cause respiratory tract irritation or failure. Long-term or repeated exposure to high levels may cause central nervous system depression; blood, lungs, liver and kidney effects; weakness, weight loss, anemia, bone brittleness, stiff joints, and general ill health. Manufacturers add Chloropicrin (causes eye and respiratory irritation and vomiting) to products as a warning indicator.

**Lab Specimen Submittal:**

Authorization by Dr. Jane Getchell, Director DPHL; Christina Pleasanton, Deputy Director DPHL; or Tara Lydick, Chemical Terrorism Coordinator.

**Type of Specimens**

Urine: 25mL-50mL screw-cap container

**Necessary for Testing:**

Whole blood:

- Three, 5 or 7 mL purple-top (EDTA) tubes (vacuum fill only) AND
- One, 5 or 7 mL gray-top or green-top (vacuum fill only) AND
- Two empty urine cups and two empty blood tubes for each lot # submitted.

**Packaging Instructions:**

Urine: freeze specimen upon collection and ship on dry ice; label specimens and package individually; wrap with absorbent material.

Whole blood: place filled tubes in a shipping rack for stability, wrap the tubes in absorbent material, and secure with tape. Place the packaged tubes in a secondary unbreakable container. Specimens may be shipped cold but *must not* be frozen.

All: wrap sample containers and layers with tamper-proof, waterproof forensic evidence tape initialed by collector, being careful not to cover the sample labels. Ship to DPHL as Biological Substance, Category B (Packing Instruction 650).

**Receiving Specimens at DPHL:**

Authorized specimens are received at the laboratory's rear (loading dock) entrance. Submitters must present ID and complete proper forms.

**Handling of Specimens:**

Follow chain of custody procedures. Freeze urine specimens.

**Reporting Results:**

Reference laboratory will notify DPHL as soon as possible. The Potential Exposure Call Log and Information form will provide information for notification of testing results outside of the DPHL.

**Contact Information:**

Jane Getchell, DrPH, Director DPHL, 302-223-1520 (24/7 coverage)

**24/7 Emergency Contact Number: 1-888-295-5156**

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